

R E P O R T

to the

Haltwhistle Rural District
Council

For the Year ending 1961

by

J. M. McEWAN, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

STAFF :

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*To the Chairman and Councillors of the Rural District Council
of Haltwhistle :*

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report for the year ending 31st December, 1961.

There is no major change to report in the circumstances of the District during the year, and any change is likely to be gradual. The population has decreased by 390, but this is probably related to a more accurate estimation as a result of the census. There is in fact a small natural increase in births over deaths.

The employment position improved to some extent during the year, and it is proposed to remove Haltwhistle from the list of designated areas. It will be noted however, that there has been a further reduction in the number of people employed in mining and quarrying, but that the same number appear to have been absorbed by the paint and chemical industries. The question of the future of Greenhead quarry was considered at a public inquiry, held because extension of the quarry would encroach on the Roman Wall, and permission to extend was not granted. The future of coal-mining is also uncertain. Further anxiety has been caused by the proposal to close the Haltwhistle — Alston branch railway line as uneconomical, and this the Council have strongly opposed because alternative road transport would be difficult at all times and impossible in severe winter weather. No decision was made during 1961.

The vital statistics for the year call for little comment. The infant mortality rate, regarded as the most sensitive index of social conditions, is a little below the national average. The birth rate shows a small increase compared with 1960, but is still below the average. The general death rate is close to the average, and the majority of deaths were due to diseases of the heart and circulation. The figures in general show a satisfactory situation in the District.

Apart from measles, which was widespread throughout the country, there were few notifications of infectious disease, three cases of scarlet fever and two cases of pneumonia. Scarlet fever has become a mild disease, endemic and occurring as single cases, and its importance lies in the possibility

of spread if the patient or his contacts should be engaged in handling milk or food. No case of whooping cough was notified, no doubt because of the extent to which parents have taken up immunisation with triple antigen which protects simultaneously against whooping cough, diphtheria and tetanus. While it is almost to be expected that no case of diphtheria and many other once common infections should be notified, it is remarkable that no case of tuberculosis, pulmonary or non-pulmonary, was notified during the year. Further cases will no doubt occur but the present position offers encouragement for the future.

During 1961 the Council's scheme of 32 one-bedroom flats, with some communal facilities and a resident warden, was completed. This is a major step forward in the housing of old people, and is the first in Northumberland. There are many advantages in providing sheltered accommodation for old people : they can live longer in the community, where they want to be, and do not have to go into homes, which have long waiting lists and are very expensive. Although no general purpose houses were built during the year, the new flats released some family houses owned by the Council and others owned privately, but there should be in the future regular transfer from the larger houses to ease the general housing problem. It must be recorded, however, that there remain almost 200 housing applicants on the waiting list.

Improvement grants are valuable in such a district as Haltwhistle to bring existing houses up to an acceptable standard and giving older houses a new lease of life. The Council encourage their use, and they are being taken up well. So far the owner-occupier has made more use of the scheme, but recent legislation may encourage the improvement of houses for letting. Standard grants which have been little used elsewhere are also being employed in the District to a useful extent.

The Newcastle and Gateshead Water Company, as water undertakers, have provided a supply satisfactory in quality and quantity. Regular samples from the public supplies are taken by them and the results given to the Health Department. Should any sample be less than satisfactory, the Company take any necessary steps to bring it to the accepted standard. Private and proposed supplies are investigated

by the Health Department. No chemical analysis was undertaken during the year. The South West Northumberland water scheme has entered phase 3, and the Council have agreed to extend the mains supply to include a further number of houses where this can be done at reasonable cost. It is unfortunate that the remote properties must continue to depend on a private supply, but cost is the limiting factor. Details of the further extensions proposed are contained in the Public Health Inspector's section of the report.

The sewage disposal scheme for Melkridge was completed during 1961, and schemes for Featherstone and Redburn are in course of preparation. Some minor improvements to the sewers at Halton-lea-Gate will also be undertaken. Further improvements in sewerage and sewage disposal are desired, but cannot be considered of an urgent nature. The cost of the schemes will be very large and in some the cost per house will be quite uneconomic.

Much has been done by the Council of recent years to improve the amenities of the District and more is planned. The Council have a difficult task in extending services through such a large district with four centres of population, and cost must always be a consideration. A steady improvement is however being carried out.

I have to thank the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee for their continued interest in the work of the Department. The Clerk and other officers have been most helpful and co-operative, and the staff of the Health Department give efficient service.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

J. M. McEWAN,

Medical Officer of Health.

SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

The area of the Haltwhistle Rural District is 96,333 acres. The only town is Haltwhistle, the other centres of population being villages.

The estimated population for 1961 is 6,890, which is a decrease of 390 from 1960.

The number of inhabited houses on 31st December, 1961, was 2,353.

The rateable value at 31st March, 1961 is £63,413.

The sum represented by a penny rate at 31st March, 1961, is £237 9s. 1d.

The following is a list of persons employed in various industries in the district.

	<i>Males and Females over 15 years of age.</i>			
Mining and Quarrying	353
Paint, Varnish, Chemical and other Manufactures	630
Distributive Trades	231
Agriculture	218
Professional Services	161
National and Local Government	145
Building Trades	202
Transport and Garages	159
Miscellaneous	146

VITAL STATISTICS

Population.

The population of the Haltwhistle Rural District, estimated at 30th June, 1961, was 6,890.

Birth Rate.

At 15.81 live births per 1,000 population, the birth rate shows an increase of 4.55 on the figure for 1960. It compares with 17.4 per 1,000 population for all England and Wales.

Of the total of 109 live births, 5 were illegitimate. There were 2 still-births compared with 3 in 1960.

Infantile Mortality.

There were 2 deaths of infants under one year. The infant mortality rate is 18.35 per 1,000 live births, the rate for England and Wales being 21.4 per 1,000.

General Death Rate.

A total of 95 deaths occurred during 1961, a decrease of 8 on 1960. When comparability factor is applied, the death rate is 13.5 per 1,000 population. The figure for all England and Wales is 12.0 per 1,000 population.

13 deaths were due to Cancer, compared with 17 in 1960.

VITAL STATISTICS SUMMARY

Live Births :

Number	..	..	..	..	..	..	109
Rate per 1,000 population	15.81

Illegitimate Live Births per cent of total live births	4.49
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Stillbirths :

Number	2
Rate per 1,000 total live and still births	18.02

Total Live and Still Births	111
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Infant Deaths (deaths under 1 year)	2
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Infant Mortality Rates :

Total infant deaths per 1,000 total live births	..	18.35
Legitimate infant deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births	..	19.23

Illegitimate infant deaths per 1,000 illegitimate live births	Nil.
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Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 total live births)	18.35
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Early Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 1 week per 1,000 total live births)	18.35
--	----	----	-------

Perinatal Mortality Rate (still-births and deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 total live and still births)	36.04
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Maternal Mortality (including abortion)

Number of deaths	Nil.
Rate per 1,000 total live and still births	Nil.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE

Measles

There were 266 cases of Measles in contrast to 12 in 1960.

Whooping Cough

No cases were notified during 1961 compared with one in 1960.

Scarlet Fever

3 cases of Scarlet Fever occurred during 1961, compared with 2 in 1960.

Tuberculosis

No cases of Respiratory Tuberculosis were notified, as against 3 in 1960. There were no deaths from Tuberculosis.

Pneumonia

2 Cases were notified during 1961, compared with 5 in 1960.

Poliomyelitis

No cases of Poliomyelitis occurred during 1961. The last case was notified in 1955.

HEALTH SERVICES

Hospitals

- (a) HALTWHISTLE WAR MEMORIAL HOSPITAL.
 Surgeon : Mr. C. I. Raeburn, R.C.S. (Ed.)
 Gynaecologist : Mr. Hugh Arthur, F.R.C.S.
 Physician : G. J. Murray, M.D.
 Matron : Miss E. Robson.

This hospital, which includes a modern Maternity Wing, is under the Management of the Hexham and District Management Committee.

The Local House Committee—Chairman, Mr. G. E. Dent, meets on the first Friday of alternate months.

- (i) *X-Ray Department.*
 X-Ray examinations are carried out Thursdays at 1-30 p.m.
 Consultant Radiologist :—Dr. Walker.
- (ii) *Gynaecologist Out-Patient Department.*
 Second Friday every month at 2 p.m.
- (iii) *Surgical Out-Patient Department.*
 Wednesdays, 12 noon.

- (iv) *Medical Out-Patient Department.*
Alternate Tuesdays, 10 a.m.

(b) **HEXHAM GENERAL HOSPITAL.**

Accommodation at this hospital is available for patients from this district. A number of medical cases for detailed investigation and some major emergency surgical cases are referred there and such special facilities as Physiotherapy are available.

- (c) **CARLISLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES HOSPITAL.**
WALKERGATE INFECTIOUS DISEASES HOSPITAL,
NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE.

Cases of infectious disease requiring In-patient treatment are accommodated at the above hospitals.

Tuberculosis Service

(a) **CHEST CLINICS**

Hexham General Hospital — Tuesdays from 9 a.m.
Tuberculosis Officer—Frederic L. Wollaston, M.R.C.S.

Tuesday	..	..	..	2—4 p.m.
Wednesday	..	..	..	6—7 p.m.
Friday	..	..	..	6—7 p.m.

INSTITUTIONAL TREATMENT.

(i) *Wooley Sanatorium.*

The standard of treatment at this hospital continues to be exceptionally high, and there is now no waiting list for admission.

(ii) *Stannington Sanatorium.*

25 children's beds are available.

Midwifery Service

(a) *Ante-Natal Care.*

Two clinics per month are held at the Haltwhistle Clinic by the local doctors.

(b) *Haltwhistle Hospital.*

The majority of the expectant mothers in the district are confined in the Haltwhistle Hospital.

The services of a visiting Gynaecologist, together with his staff, have proved of great assistance and are also available for emergency work.

Bowmer Bank Hostel, Morpeth, cares for unmarried expectant mothers.

(c) *Domiciliary Service.*

Two midwives reside at the Haltwhistle Nurses' Home, Allenbrae, Haltwhistle (Telephone 368).

Two cars are provided for the use of the Nurses in attending cases in this extensive district.

Home Help Service

The County Council Home Help Service is in operation in the district.

Home Helps are available to householders where such help is required in cases of illness, but priority is given to domiciliary maternity cases.

More and more use is being made of the Service by old people and the chronic sick.

County Orthopaedic Service

The Orthopaedic Clinic for Children is held at Hexham General Hospital every Tuesday at 10 a.m., and at Haltwhistle Child Welfare Clinic every Wednesday at 10 a.m.

An Orthopaedic Surgeon attends on the fourth Tuesday every month at Hexham General Hospital and on the second Wednesday of every month at Haltwhistle Child Welfare Clinic.

Child Welfare Service.

Clinics are held at Haltwhistle Clinic every Thursday by the Child Welfare Medical Officer and the Health Visitor.

Clinics are also held at Gilsland and Halton-Lea-Gate every fourth Friday.

School Dental Clinic

Clinics are held every Monday and Thursday, and Friday of alternate weeks at Haltwhistle Clinic. The Dentist visits the various schools in the district.

Dental Officer—Mr. Bodenham.

Public Health Laboratory Service

The Public Health Laboratory, under the Director, J. H. Hale, is located at the Newcastle General Hospital.

Ambulance Service.

The Ambulance service is maintained and run by the members of the St. John's Ambulance Division, for the Northumberland County Council, and members of the Nursing Division act as attendants when required.

During the year 1961, 3,164 cases were handled, made up as follows :—

<i>Cases Transported by Ambulance :</i>			
Road Accidents ..	20	Mileage Covered ..	625
Other Accidents ..	14	Mileage Covered ..	494
Invalids	357	Mileage Covered ..	7,275
	<hr/> 391		<hr/> 8,394
<i>Car Sitting Cases ..</i>	<i>2,773</i>	<i>Mileage Covered ..</i>	<i>50,696</i>
<i>Total Cases ..</i>	<i>3,164</i>	<i>Total Mileage ..</i>	<i>59,090</i>

The extensive use of this service is due to poor communications in the rural district and the necessity for transport from isolated places. As much as possible of the work is done by car.

Registrar of Births, Marriages and Deaths.

Registrar :	Mrs. F. Robinson.
Office :	C.W.S. Building, Main Street, Halt-whistle.
Hours :	Wednesdays, Saturdays :—11 a.m. to 12 noon. Thursdays : 2—3 p.m.

TABLE 1.

The following table shows the principal vital mortality rates for the years 1952-61.

YEAR	Birth Rate per 1,000 Population	General Death Rate per 1,000 Living	Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Live Births	Death Rate from Respiratory T.B. per 1,000 Living
1952	14.02	13.89	38	.13
1953	14.35	12.36	—	.02
1954	13.36	11.84	43	.13
1955	14.56	13.22	39.6	.13
1956	14.27	13.20	30	.13
1957	15.20	12.71	28.57	.00
1958	14.22	10.18	9.51	.00
1959	13.66	12.73	19.42	.00
1960	11.26	13.87	12.19	.00
1961	15.81	13.5	18.35	.00

TABLE II.
INFECTIOUS DISEASE

DISEASE	YEAR									
	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961
Small Pox ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Enteric Fever ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Paratyphoid Fever ..	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Scarlet Fever ..	15	13	5	—	29	7	13	25	2	3
Whooping Cough ..	3	44	7	21	9	40	2	—	1	—
Diphtheria ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas ..	1	—	2	2	1	—	—	—	—	—
Measles ..	121	186	19	124	15	199	1	8	12	266
Pneumonia ..	5	7	1	—	—	11	—	—	5	2
Puerperal Pyrexia ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—
Acute Anterior Poliomyelitis ..	9	6	—	5	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cerebro Spinal Fever ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentry ..	1	—	—	9	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meningococcal Infection ..	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Malaria ..	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Food Poisoning ..	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS ..	157	258	36	162	54	257	18	34	20	271

TABLE III.
TUBERCULOSIS.

Age. Periods	NEW NOTIFICATIONS						DEATHS					
	Respiratory			Non-Respiratory			Respiratory			Non-Respiratory		
	M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total
0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5—14	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15—44	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
45—64	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 +	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Unknown	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

TABLE IV.
NOTIFICATION OF BIRTHS.

YEAR	Registered Births					Illegitimate Births (included in Registered Births)				
	Live Births		Still Births		Total	Live Births		Still Births		Total
	M.	F.	M.	F.		M.	F.	M.	F.	
1952	66	40	5	—	111	2	1	—	—	3
1953	58	45	1	5	109	4	—	—	—	4
1954	51	42	—	—	93	1	3	—	—	4
1955	56	45	1	5	107	1	—	—	—	1
1956	52	46	2	—	100	—	3	—	—	3
1957	51	54	2	1	108	2	3	—	—	5
1958	51	53	1	2	107	1	2	—	—	3
1959	58	45	—	1	104	—	2	—	1	3
1960	42	40	1	2	85	1	3	—	1	5
1961	61	48	1	1	111	4	1	—	—	5

TABLE V.
INFANT DEATHS

Deaths of Infants Under 1 year of age.			Deaths of Infants Under 4 weeks of age		
	M.	F.		M.	F.
Legitimate ..	2	—	Legitimate ..	2	—
Illegitimate	—	—	Illegitimate	—	—
	—	—		—	—
	2	—		2	—
	—	—		—	—

TABLE VI.
ANALYSIS OF DEATHS BY CAUSES

CAUSES OF DEATH				1957		1958		1959		1960		1961	
				M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
1.	Tuberculosis, respiratory	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
2.	Tuberculosis, other	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
3.	Syphilitic Disease	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
4.	Diphthcria	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5.	Whooping Cough	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
6.	Meningococcal Infections	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
7.	Acute Poliomyelitis	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
8.	Measles	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
9.	Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10.	Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	...	...	1	1	1	3	1	2	2	2	—	—
11.	Malignant Neoplasm, Lung Bronchus...	...	...	4	—	1	—	2	—	7	—	3	—
12.	Malignant Neoplasm, Breast	...	...	—	—	—	1	—	2	—	—	—	—
13.	Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus	...	...	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
14.	Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms	...	...	9	2	5	3	3	3	1	4	3	6
15.	Leukaemia, Aleukaemia	...	...	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
16.	Diabetes	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	1
17.	Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	...	...	9	10	9	8	8	16	8	10	8	7
18.	Coronary Disease, Angina	...	...	10	7	9	4	8	2	12	14	21	6
19.	Hypertension with Heart Disease	...	...	—	1	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	1
20.	Other Heart Disease	...	...	5	2	6	6	7	11	6	4	6	5
21.	Other Circulatory Disease	...	...	2	3	2	2	3	4	3	2	1	4
22.	Influenza	...	...	—	3	—	—	1	—	2	—	—	—
23.	Pneumonia	...	...	—	—	2	—	3	1	—	—	2	1
24.	Bronchitis	...	...	—	1	2	—	4	1	5	2	3	—
25.	Other Diseases of Respiratory System	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
26.	Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	...	...	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
27.	Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea	...	...	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
28.	Nephritis and Nephrosis	...	...	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
29.	Hyperplasia of Prostrate	...	...	—	—	—	—	2	—	2	—	2	—
30.	Pregnancy, Child Birth, Abortion	...	...	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
31.	Congenital Malformations	...	...	1	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
32.	Other Defined and ill-defined disease	...	...	5	3	3	2	1	4	4	2	6	1
33.	Motor Vehicle Accidents	...	...	3	2	1	—	1	—	2	2	1	1
34.	All other Accidents	...	...	3	2	1	—	3	—	1	2	1	—
35.	Suicide	...	...	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	3
36.	Homicide and Operations of War	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
ALL CAUSES				54	41	44	32	50	46	56	47	57	38

SANITARY CONDITIONS
IN THE AREA

HOUSING

General.

During the year the Council built 32 one-bedroom flats with Communal Room and accommodation for the Warden. In addition, 21 people were rehoused on casual vacancies. It is interesting to note that despite the number of persons rehoused since 1957 (190), the housing list has remained steady between 160 and 170 until this year and as the houses were occupied near the end of 1961 the figure again would have been consistent.

By exchanges amongst Council house tenants the Council are making better use of the available accommodation. There are still a large number of family houses occupied by a single person or married couple and despite all these being circularised when the flats were let only eight were rehoused out of a total of 98 houses occupied by a single person or married couple.

Despite the above efforts by the Council and private enterprise, the population continues to drop.

Local Authority Houses.

Total number of Houses owned by Local Authority 490
Number of Temporary Dwellings included above Nil.

Families Re-housed during last 5 years :

	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961
(a) Slum Clearance	40	4	4	—	3
(b) Without Separate Homes ..	7	3	5	9	10
(c) With separate Homes ..	11	4	10	12	38
(d) From Council Houses ..	5	3	4	3	15
TOTAL	63	14	23	24	66
Overcrowding Abated ..	11	3	9	9	4
(Included in above figures)					
No. of Outstanding Applications for Council houses at year end ..	166	166	170	177	133

FAMILIES REHOUSED DURING 1961.

	Aged Persons	Other Classes
(a) Slum Clearance	1	2
(b) Without Separate Homes	7	3
(c) With Separate Homes	20	18*
(d) From Council Houses (Living in etc.) .	—	1
(e) Exchange of Council House Accom- modation	—	14

* (Includes 2 from Caravans)

Overcrowding Abated :

Statutory	3
Moral	1

Number of Outstanding applications for Council
Houses on the Authorities list at year end

133

The following table shows the number of houses completed during the year :—

New Houses completed during the Year.	With State Assistance	Unaided	Total
(a) By Local Authority ..	32	1	33
(b) By any other Housing Authority	—	—	—
(c) By private persons ..	—	2	2

Slum Clearance

Three families were rehoused from properties condemned in 1960 and this completed the first 5 year period. It is not expected that any large scale slum clearance will be undertaken at the present time.

ACTION WITH REGARD TO UNFIT HOUSES.

A. Houses Demolished.

	Houses Demolished	Displaced during year	
		Persons	Families
In Clearance Areas			
(1) Houses unfit for human habitation	—	—	—
(2) Houses included by reason of bad arrangement, etc. ..	—	—	—
(3) Houses on land acquired under Section 43(2) Housing Act, 1957	—	—	—
Not in Clearance Areas :			
(4) As a result of formal or informal procedure under Sec. 17(1) H.A. 57	10	—	—
(5) Local Authority owned houses certified unfit by the Medical Officer of Health	—	—	—
(6) Houses unfit for human habitation where action has been taken under local Acts ..	—	—	—
(7) Unfit houses included in Unfitness Orders	—	—	—
B. Unfit Houses Closed :	Number		
(8) Under Sections 16(4), 17(1) and 35(1), Housing Act, 1957 ..	—	—	—
(9) Under Sections 17(3) and 26, H.A. 1957	—	—	—
(10) Parts of buildings closed under Section 18, H.A. 1957	—	—	—
Other houses closed not included above	4	—	—

C. Unfit Houses made fit and Houses in which defects were remedied :

	By Owner	By Local Authority
(11) After informal action by Local Authority	40	—
(12) After formal notice under :—		
(a) Public Health Acts	—	—
(b) Secs. 9 & 16 Housing Act, 1957 ..	2	—
(13) Under Sec. 24, Housing Act, 1957 ..	2	—

HOUSE PURCHASE AND HOUSING ACT, 1959.

(a) Discretionary Grants

No. of Separate
Houses

Applications submitted to Local Authority ..	19
Applications rejected	—
Applications approved	19
Approximate average grant approved per house	£241
Total number of houses approved for grant since inception of scheme	213

(b) Standard Grants

	During the Year			Total
	L.A. Houses	Private	Total	to Date
Number of houses approved for grant	2	13	15	23
Number of houses provided with :—				
(a) Bath or shower .. —		13	13	18
(b) Wash hand basin .. —		13	13	18
(c) Hot water supply .. —		14	14	19
(d) Water Closet .. 2		13	15	20
(e) Food Store .. —		9	9	15

(c) No. of houses not included above, approved for grants under the Hill Farming & Livestock Rearing Acts, 1946-54 4

No. of houses improved by grants during last ten years.

	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961
(a) Discretionary Grants ..	12	19	23	27	21	26	27	10	19	19
(b) Standard Grants ..									8	15
(c) Ministry of Agriculture Grants ..		23	13	7	7	3	6	6	6	4

The number of applications for Discretionary Grants approved by the Local Authority is the same as 1960, however, the number of Standard Grants has almost doubled.

As in previous years most houses improved have been owner/occupied but there are signs that more private landlords are taking advantage of grants available. It would I feel be to the general good of the district if more tenanted houses could be improved, but as is general throughout the country, houses on becoming vacant are usually sold and thereafter often improved by the new owner/occupier. It is a

healthy sign for the district that most houses are sold within a short time of being put on the market.

As can be seen in the 10 year table, a new feature of this report, that as the number of houses grant aided by this Authority is increasing the number improved by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries & Food is decreasing. The proportion between Local Authority and Ministry being this year 8 to 1.

Caravan Sites.

The number of caravans stationed in the district is approximately the same as last year and are, for the most part, concentrated at Blenkinsopp Castle Caravan Site. The benefits of modern sanitary accommodation, together with hot and cold running water, showers and launderette have attracted both residential and holiday caravans.

Little difficulty has been experienced during the year from caravan sites. The Local Authority considered the question of a Council site, but difficulties were experienced in finding a suitable site.

There appears to be no improvement in the sites licensed by the Caravan Club which leave much to be desired in position and amenities. It is hoped that some assistance can be given in legislation to deal with these sites.

In this area we are fortunate that there are no regular gipsy caravan sites. Part-time parking on verge sides does occur but usually for an overnight stop and little nuisance is caused.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Meat

There are four private slaughterhouses operating in the district, three in Haltwhistle and one in Gilsland, the latter however is now rarely used.

A hundred per cent meat inspection in the district was maintained despite the fact that practically all of the meat inspection is carried out outside normal office hours, slaughtering being done on one night in the week unless casualties are dealt with.

The amount of meat condemned has decreased slightly, 15 cwts. being condemned, mainly liver due to cirrhosis. The quantity of cooked meat condemned has greatly increased, a total of 205 lbs. was condemned during the year as against 57 lbs. in 1960.

Arrangements for the disposal of condemned meat have been satisfactory.

The "appointed day" for the slaughterhouses in this district has been fixed as 1st January, 1963, but a slow progress is being made to improve the slaughterhouses.

CARCASES AND OFFAL INSPECTED AND
CONDEMNED IN WHOLE OR IN PART

	Cattle exclud'g Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number Killed	316	1	1	693	146	—
Number Inspected	316	1	1	693	146	—
<i>All Diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci :</i>						
Whole Carcases condemned ..	—	—	1	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ..	80	1	—	25	4	—
Percentage of the number in- spected affected with disease other than tuberculosis or cysticerci	25.3	100	100	3.6	2.7	—
<i>Tuberculosis Only :</i>						
Whole carcasses condemned ..	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ..	1	—	—	—	—	—
Percentage of the number in spected affected with tuber- culosis	0.31	—	—	—	—	—
<i>Cysticercosis :</i>						
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ..	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases submitted to treat- ment by refrigeration ..	—	—	—	—	—	—
Generalised and totally con- demned	—	—	—	—	—	—

The following table shows the amount of meat and other foods condemned during the year :—

UNSOUND FOOD	Surrendered	Seized	Legal Proceedings
Beef (Home killed) Stones ..	22	—	—
Beef (Imported) „ ..	—	—	—
Mutton (Home Killed) „ ..	1	—	—
Mutton (Imported) „ ..	—	—	—
Pork (Home Killed) „ ..	—	—	—
Pork (Imported) „ ..	—	—	—
Offal (Home Killed) „ ..	96	—	—
Game lbs.	—	—	—
Poultry „ ..	—	—	—
Fish „ ..	—	—	—
Sausages „ ..	—	—	—
Bacon „ ..	—	—	—
Cheese „ ..	—	—	—
Butter „ ..	—	—	—
Lard „ ..	—	—	—
Eggs, Frozen „ ..	—	—	—

Unsound Food	Surrendered		Seized	Legal Proceedings
	Tins	Weight		
Cooked Meat	24	203 lbs.	—	—
Fruit	—	—	—	—
Vegetables	—	—	—	—
Miscellaneous	—	—	—	—
Frozen Food :—Packets:	—	—	—	—

Milk and Dairies.

Number of Distributors of Milk registered under the Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949-54 11

Number Licensed for the Sale of Pasteurised and Sterilized Milk under the Milk (Special Designation) (Pasteurised and Sterilized Milk) Regulations, 1949-54 7

Duties under the above are now carried out by the County Council. Regular sampling having been made and co-operation maintained during the year.

Ice Cream.

Number of Premises registered under Section
16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, for the
manufacture of Ice Cream 2

Number of Premises registered under Section
16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, for the
sale of pre-packed Ice Cream 29

For the first time in a number of years the total number of premises selling ice cream has not greatly increased. However, this may be due to the fact that most shops sell ice cream where it is expected to be a normal commodity.

The number of shops now selling frozen meat, fish and vegetables has again risen, but as there is no legislation covering the registration of these premises, no figures are available.

Food Hygiene Regulations.

Regular inspections of food premises were made during the year and occupiers of premises have complied with requirements without the necessity of formal action.

Food Premises.

The following shows the number of food premises, by type of business in the District :—

Butchers	6
Bakehouses	5
Cafes	3
Snack Bars	4
Confectioners	3
Fishmongers	2
Fried Fish Shops	1
General Stores	23
Greengrocers	4
Hotels and Licensed Premises	19
Chemists	3
Sweets and Tobacconists	8

WATER SUPPLY

General.

The Water Authority for the area is now the Newcastle and Gateshead Water Company and excellent co-operation was maintained with them during the year.

The abnormal wet summer again caused some difficulties in the bacteriological quality of the water at the sources, but this was dealt with by chlorination. Difficulties were experienced due to chlorine tastes, but these it is hoped, will soon be overcome.

The yield from all sources was sufficient to meet the demand.

Private Supplies.

The number of samples taken from private supplies again decreased during the year, probably due to the abnormal wet summers of previous years. It is found that few farmers look for additional sources of supply except during dry spells. The abnormal wet summer again meant that few sources of supply failed and samples taken from new supplies were usually associated with increased milk production.

Samples of water for bacteriological examination were taken from the following supplies and the appropriate steps were taken to eliminate contamination on the supplies where pollution was found :—

Date	Supply	Public or Private	No. of B. Coli per 100 ml.	Result.
18/1/61	North Side, Store Room Tap. Common House Inn	Public	0	Satisfactory
	Henshaw, Standpipe, Henshaw Village	Public	0	Satisfactory
	Bardon Mill, Bar Tap, Bowes Hotel	Public	0	Satisfactory
	Birch Trees, Tap, Council Offices	Public	0	Satisfactory
25/1/61	Birch Trees, Tap, Herdley Villa	Public	0	Satisfactory
	Slaggyford, Tap, Sanders Close	Public	0	Satisfactory
	Birch Trees, Tap, Council Offices	Public	0	Satisfactory

Date	Supply	Public or Private	No. of B. Coli per 100 ml.	Result.
16/2/61	Cleugh Foot, Collecting Chamber, Cleugh Foot	Private	0	Satisfactory
	North Side, Tap, Common House Inn	Public	0	Satisfactory
	Birch Trees Supply, Tap, Council Offices	Public	0	Satisfactory
27/2/61	Halton-Lea-Gate Tap, 27 Pennine Road	Public	3	Satisfactory
	Gilsland, Standtap, Blenkinsopp Caravan Site	Public	5	Suspicious
	North Side, Tap, Comb Hill Road	Public	0	Satisfactory
	Birch Trees Supply, Tap, Council Offices	Public	0	Satisfactory
12/4/61	Gilsland, Standpipe, Blenkinsopp Caravan Site	Public	0	Satisfactory
	Halton-Lea-Gate Tap, 25 Pennine Road	Public	0	Satisfactory
	Melkridge Standtap, Oakland Nurseries	Public	2	Satisfactory
	Birch Trees, Tap, Council Offices	Public	0	Satisfactory
18/4/61	Towhouse, Standpipe, Towhouse	Public	13	Unsatisfactory
	Bardon Mill, Tap, Bowes Hotel	Public	2	Satisfactory
	Thorngrafton, Tap, Thorngrafton Cottage	Public	1	Satisfactory
	Birch Trees, Tap, Council Offices	Public	0	Satisfactory
26/4/61	Birch Trees, Tap, Herdley Villa, Coanwood	Public	0	Satisfactory
	Slaggyford, Tap, The Green	Public	0	Satisfactory
	Melkridge, Standpipe, Henshaw Village	Public	0	Satisfactory
	Standpipe, Towhouse	Public	0	Satisfactory
24/5/61	North Side, Tap, Sunnyside, North Road	Public	0	Satisfactory
	Birch Trees, Tap, Council Offices	Public	0	Satisfactory
	Halton-Lea-Gate Kitchen Tap, 27 Pennine Road	Public	0	Satisfactory
	Gilsland, 7 Old Row, Bankfoot, Greenhead	Public	0	Satisfactory

Date	Supply	Public or Private	No. of B. Coli per 100 ml.	Result.
30/5/61	Ridley Hall School, Kitchen Tap, Ridley Hall Scullery Tap, Ridley Hall Bathroom, Ridley Hall	Private Private Private	0 3 0	Satisfactory Satisfactory Satisfactory
31/5/61	Ridley Hall School, Pumping Station, Ridley Reservoir Pumping Station, Ridley Reservoir Pumping Station, Ridley Kitchen Tap, Ridley Hall Scullery Tap, Ridley Hall	Private Private Private Private Private	180* 0 0 0 5	Unsatisfactory Satisfactory Satisfactory Satisfactory Suspicious
13/6/61	Slaggyford, Tap, Bertram Hill, Slaggyford Slaggyford, Tap, Woodbine Cottage Birch Trees, Tap, Council Offices	Private Public Public	0 0 0	Satisfactory Satisfactory Satisfactory
5/7/61	North Side, Tap, Sunnyside, North Road Gilsland, Kitchen Tap, Alpha Mount Scullery Tap, Quarry House Birch Trees, Council Offices, Haltwhistle	Public Public Public Public	35 3 0 0	Unsatisfactory Satisfactory Satisfactory Satisfactory
19/7/61	Melkridge 2 Moor View, Melkridge North Side, Store Room Tap, Common House Inn Gilsland, Tap, Blenkinsopp Caravan Site Birch Trees, Tap, Council Offices	Public Public Public Public	25 0 0 0	Unsatisfactory Satisfactory Satisfactory Satisfactory
25/7/61	Melkridge, Tap, 8 Moor View Bardon Mill, Ashcroft Farm, Bardon Mill Thorngraston, Tap, Miss Dixon's, Thorngraston Birch Trees, Tap, Council Offices	Public Public Public Public	35 0 160 1	Unsatisfactory Satisfactory Unsatisfactory Satisfactory

Date	Supply	Public or Private	No. of B. Coli per 100 ml.	Result.
1/8/61	Birch Trees, Tap, Council Offices North Side, Kitchen Tap, "Overdale," Comb Hill	Public	0	Satisfactory
	Halton-Lea-Gate, Tap, 27 Pennine Road	Public	8	Suspicious
		Public	17	Unsatisfactory
7/9/61	Slaggyford Tap, "Heatherlea" Gilsland	Public	0	Satisfactory
	5 Old Row, Bankfoot, Greenhead	Public	90	Unsatisfactory
	Birch Trees, Tap, Council Offices North Side, Tap, "Overdale," Comb Hill	Public	3	Satisfactory
		Public	0	Satisfactory
13/9/61	Birch Trees, Tap, Council Offices, Gilsland, 5 Old Row, Bankfoot	Public	1	Satisfactory
	Melkridge, Tap, 9 Moor View	Public	35	Unsatisfactory
	Thorngrafton, Tap, Spout Cottage	Public	17	Unsatisfactory
		Public	35	Unsatisfactory
3/10/61	Bardon Mill, Tap, Bowes Hotel	Public	90	Unsatisfactory
	Melkridge, Tap, The Green	Public	3	Unsatisfactory
	Birch Trees, Tap, Council Offices	Public	1	Satisfactory
	Halton-Lea-Gate Tap, 27 Pennine Road	Public	35	Unsatisfactory
11/10/61	Thorngrafton, Miss Dixon's Cottage	Public	13	Unsatisfactory
	Bardon Mill, Tap, 2 Station Cottages	Public	3	Satisfactory
	Birch Trees, Tap, Council Offices	Public	5	Suspicious
	Gilsland, Tap, 4 Old Row, Bankfoot	Public	0	Satisfactory
25/10/61	Thorngrafton, Tap, Miss Dixon's Cottage	Public	50	Unsatisfactory
	Birch Trees, Tap, Council Offices	Public	0	Satisfactory
	North Side, Kitchen Tap, Syke Head	Public	0	Satisfactory
	Greenhead, Kitchen Tap, Moss Petrel	Private	50	Unsatisfactory

Date	Supply	Public or Private	No. of B. Coli per 100 ml.	Result.
8/11/61	Greenhead, Trough Tap, Moss Petrel	Private	11	Unsatisfactory
	Wash-house Tap, Moss Petrel	Private	11	Unsatisfactory
15/11/61	Thorngraston, Tap, Spout Cottage	Public	0	Satisfactory
	Birch Trees, Tap, Council Offices	Public	1	Satisfactory
	Tap, 1 Comb Hill Road	Public	0	Satisfactory
	Halton-Lea-Gate Tap, 27 Pennine Road	Public	2	Satisfactory
22/11/61	Greenhead, Collecting Chamber, Low Tippalt	Private	5	Suspicious
	Reservoir, Low Tippalt	Private	1	Satisfactory
	Overflow, Low Tippalt	Private	2	Satisfactory
	Kitchen Tap, Moss Petrel	Private	5	Suspicious

Parish	No. of Houses Direct from Mains	Estimated Population	No. of Houses Served by Standpipes	Estimated Population
Bardon Mill ..	66	186	6	17
Coanwood ..	49	157	6	19
Featherstone ..	43	129	8	24
Greenhead ..	55	159	9	26
Haltwhistle ..	1,184	3,600	30	93
Hartleyburn ..	69	214	19	59
Henshaw ..	144	415	24	70
Melkridge ..	45	149	11	36
Plenmellor with Whitfield..	26	83	2	6
Slaggyford ..	59	184	1	3
Thirlwall ..	140	455	6	19
	1,880	5,731	122	372

Sources closed or discontinued Nil. No. of Houses Nil.

New Service provided :—

(a) By Local Authority .. Nil. No. of Houses Nil.

(b) By Newcastle and Gates-
head Water Company .. 15 No. of Houses 41

(c) By Private Owner .. 1 No. of Houses 1

South West Northumberland Comprehensive Scheme.

This scheme started last year, which covers this and neighbouring Authorities, is proceeding satisfactorily. The water is obtained from Gunnerton and a trunk main is laid through various Rural District, entering the area at the extreme east at Thorngraston and extending to the extreme west at Gilsland.

Two reservoirs were nearing completion at the year end, these being at Huntercrook and Moorfield, this together with larger diameter mains will improve the head in a number of areas in the district.

On completion of the scheme, the small spring supplies at Melkridge, Bardon Mill and Thorngraston will be discontinued. The Birch Trees, North Side and Gilsland supplies will continue, but will be supplemented by the new supply. The sources at Slaggyford and Halton-Lea-Gate will not be affected.

A survey of all parishes in the district which suffered from a shortage of water was instituted with the aid of Parish Councils. This was then submitted to the Newcastle and Gateshead Water Company who presented the Council with a comprehensive scheme. When this was discussed it was realised that it was by no means complete and a supplementary enquiry was made.

The following areas, Huntercrook, Henshaw, Parkside, Bardon Mill, Thorngraston, Beltingham, Ridley and Willimoteswick were already to be dealt with under phase 3 of the South West Northumberland Comprehensive Scheme. Twenty one properties and a private school were to be served with mains water for the first time.

The remaining areas to be served were :—

- (A) Cowburn and Hallpeatmoss.
Bardon Mill, Thorngraston and Melkridge.
(These were later combined to form the High Level Area scheme).
- (B) Chesterholme.
Parkhead.
(Later combined to form the Low Level Area Scheme).

- (C) Low House, Haltwhistle and Wydoncleughside.
- (D) Bank Top, Greenhead.
- (E) Featherstone.
- (F) Eals and Slaggyford West.

A. High Level Area Scheme.

Water supplies in this area have always been a serious problem some farms and hamlets having satisfactory supplies whereas properties at a different level a few hundred yards away would be very badly served.

The scheme as suggested by the Water Company was in the first place two separate schemes, but these could be more economically combined and this was done.

Fifty four properties would have been served, 37 of which would have taken the supply at a total cost of £41,000. In view of the cost of £1,000 per property it was with regret that the Council turned down this scheme.

The Newcastle and Gateshead Water Company were approached and it was suggested that local springs could be utilised, however, no schemes as yet have been received from the Company.

B. Low Level Area Scheme.

Fifteen properties were to be served, all of which need water, this being at a total cost of £4,913.

C. Haltwhistle West Side.

Six properties were to be served all of which were interested, at a total cost of £1,438. Cost per house, £240.

D. Greenhead Bank Top.

Four properties to be served, all of which are interested. Total cost being £1,059. Cost per house, £265.

E. Featherstone and Hartleyburn.

Nineteen properties were to be served in this area, 18 properties being interested in taking a supply. Total cost, £6,642. Cost per house, £369.

F. Eals and Slaggyford West.

This scheme covered 31 properties, 20 properties of which were interested in taking mains supply. Total cost, £8,000. Average cost per house for this scheme would be £400.

Three properties in the Birkshaw area, whose water supply fails each year, were considered separately and a small scheme was approved by the Council at a cost of £350 approximately.

General.

The Council have therefore submitted these schemes to the Ministry for their approval and an additional 67 houses will be served with mains water at a total cost of £22,402 and an average cost of £333 per house. When approved by the Ministry it is hoped that these houses will be connected to mains supply in the near future. If a satisfactory scheme can be found to supply the High Level Area, it would mean that all the district was covered with mains water where needed.

SEWERAGE

The scheme completed for Longbyre in late 1959 has resulted in all pail closets in the village being converted to water lavatories with the exception of two not yet completed, though orders have been given by the owners.

Conversions were undertaken with the aid of Standard Grants in the case of seven houses, the rest being done without any financial assistance from the Council.

During the year the sewerage works to serve Melkridge was completed and a number of properties converted from pail to water lavatories.

A number of villages are still without adequate sewerage facilities and these are being tackled as quickly as finance and staff will allow. Unfortunately, all schemes are becoming more and more costly, due to the isolated and small number of properties to be served.

The number of pail closets in the district is however being reduced as in a large number of cases this has been done with the aid of Standard or Discretionary Grants.

REFUSE COLLECTION

The refuse collection service carried out by direct labour has operated satisfactorily during the year and I am pleased to report that abnormal absences due to sickness amongst employees has reduced. This factor and the additional labour employed has meant that the institution of the reduced working week and five day week have been done without

any decrease in efficiency. The five day week has been welcomed by the men and is of benefit during holiday periods and to the service generally.

Collections are made from most of the reasonably accessible properties in the district once per week, with the exception of Haltwhistle which is collected twice weekly.

The total number of houses covered is approximately 2,100 plus 50 caravans.

A 7-cubic yard petrol driven Karrier Bantam with driver and two loaders is used to collect from Haltwhistle and Plenmeller, and the remainder of the outside district is covered by a Fordson Thames 3-ton refuse vehicle and is manned by a driver and two loaders. The new vehicle, a diesel, proves to be much more economical on fuel than the one replaced.

Sanitary pails are collected by the refuse collection staff from various parts of the district still without adequate sewerage systems. This unpleasant task is carried out with as little nuisance as possible. The problem is being eased slightly by conversion of pail lavatories to water lavatories with the aid of Grants. However, the only solution is for the villages all to be provided with efficient sewerage facilities, but these schemes are becoming more and more costly.

The conversion of all the pail lavatories at Longbyre has greatly eased the situation as the tip used to serve this area had to be closed during the year as the lease was terminated. All refuse is now being brought to Plenmeller tip, with the exception of half day's refuse which is disposed of at Lambley. This method is not economical on fuel, but suitable tips are very difficult to obtain.

When one has found an owner of a suitably isolated site, there is then the difficulty of obtaining Town and Country Planning approval. Despite isolated sites chosen these have often to be further screened etc., all adding to cost.

Refuse disposal in Rural areas, which may seem to be so "easy," is becoming more and more of a problem financially and otherwise. All villages want the collection service without the disposal problem.

RODENT CONTROL

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACTS, 1949.

A part-time operator is employed, his other duties being tip attendant and spare driver as and when required. With the additional loader obtained in 1959 and less sickness amongst staff he has been able to devote more time to his rodent control duties.

Numerous treatments have been carried out on both Council and private properties, without charge, a small charge is made for business premises.

Attendance at Workable Area Meetings, where problems were discussed with other Public Health Inspectors and Ministry officials, were found to be of great assistance. In addition, I would like to express appreciation to the Ministry staff who were of great assistance during the year, not only for normal rodent control problems, but helped greatly to reduce the pigeon problem in Haltwhistle.

The figures given in the following table cover the full calendar year.

	TYPE OF PROPERTY				(5) Agri- cultural
	NON-AGRICULTURAL				
	(1) Local Authority	(2) Dwelling Houses (inc.Council Houses)	(3) All other (incl. Business Premises)	(4) Total of Cols. (1) (2) & (3)	
Number of Properties in Local Authorities District	16	2,069	269	2, 354	334
Number of Properties inspected as a result of :—					
(a) Notification	—	19	11	30	5
(b) Survey under the Act ...	19	120	12	151	—
(c) Otherwise (<i>e.g.</i> when visited primarily for some other purpose)	5	119	68	192	93
Total inspections carried out including re-inspections ...	69	398	168	635	101
Number of properties inspected which were found to be infested by :					
(a) Rats Major ...	—	—	—	—	—
Minor ...	3	34	13	50	8
(b) Mice Major ...	—	—	—	—	—
Minor ...	—	20	8	28	3
Number of infested properties treated by the Local Authority	3	54	21	78	5
Total treatments carried out including re-treatments ...	4	54	21	79	5
Number of Notices served under Section 4 of the Act :—					
(a) Treatment	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Structural Work— (<i>i.e.</i> , Proofing) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Number of cases in which default action was taken following the issue of a Notice under Section 4 of the Act	—	—	—	—	—
Legal Proceedings	—	—	—	—	—
Number of ‘Block’ control Schemes carried out	—	—	—	—	—

Local Authority refuse tips are not normally included in the Valuation Roll, however, these have been included in Group I. Rodent control is, of necessity greater at these than at other local authority properties.

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 to 1959.
Part I of the Act.

I.—INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health
(including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors)

PREMISES (1)	Number on Register (2)	Number of		
		Inspections (3)	Written notices (4)	Occupiers prosecuted (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	3	7	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authority	33	60	2	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises) ...	5	7	—	—
TOTAL	41	74	2	—

II.—Cases in which DEFECTS were found

PARTICULARS (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (6)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred To H.M. Inspector (4)	By H.M. Inspector (5)	
Want of Cleanliness (S. 1.) ...	2	2	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S. 2)	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S. 3)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S. 4)	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S. 6)	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S. 7)					
(a) Insufficient	1	—	—	1	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	—	—	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes ...	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Out-work ...	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	3	2	—	1	—

Part VIII of the Act.

OUTWORK

(Sections 110 and 111)

NIL RETURN.

MISCELLANEOUS

Public Swimming Baths.

There are no public swimming baths in this area.

Litter.

Anti-litter posters were again widely distributed throughout the district in the hope that the volume of litter deposited in the countryside would be reduced. The supply of posters to garages, cafes and licensed premises was given priority, as it is felt that motorists are the worst offenders in this respect.

The provision of litter bins in laybys by the County Council has assisted the problem, but despite their prominence they could be more fully used by the public.

Common Lodging House.

There is one common lodging house in the district, situated in Haltwhistle, which is individually owned and is now the only one between Carlisle and Newcastle.

The number of occupants is small and decreases each year. Regular inspections are made and no nuisances have arisen which could be dealt with by the Police or Public Health Inspector.

SUMMARY OF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR'S VISITS AND INSPECTIONS

Housing Inspections	..	..	..	..	49
Applications for Council Houses	..	..	..	..	161
House Purchase and Housing Act, 1959					
(Improvement Grants)				Discretionary Grants	185
				Standard Grants	171
Housing General	..	..	..	..	33
Rent Act, 1957, Certificate of Disrepair	..	..	..	..	7
Sanitary Accommodation	..	..	..	..	309
Drainage	..	..	..	..	216
Water Supply	..	..	..	..	327
Moveable Dwellings	..	..	..	..	48
Rodent Control	..	..	..	..	153
Refuse Collection and Disposal	..	..	..	..	433
Factories	..	..	..	..	74
Food Premises	..	..	..	..	128
Infectious Disease	..	..	..	..	16
Nuisances	..	..	..	..	93
Common Lodgings House	..	..	..	..	16
Slaughterhouses and Meat Inspection	..	..	..	..	198
Miscellaneous	..	..	..	..	147
TOTAL					2,764

